Build with Google AI Forum

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Deleted chats remain accessible via direct URL in Google AI Studio

Google AI Studio feedback, feature_request

Pym 1 Apr 2025

Hello everyone,

I want to report a concerning issue about how Google AI Studio handles chat deletions. After creating a chat and then deleting it through the AI Studio interface (which also removes the corresponding file from Drive), I would expect it to be fully gone.

The problem: If I bookmarked the unique URL of the chat before deleting it, I can still access the entire conversation at any time (even more than two weeks later). The chat no longer appears in AI Studio or in Drive, yet remains fully accessible via its direct URL. And not just passively, the chat remains fully interactive. I can ask new questions and continue the

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Why is this concerning?

- It suggests a partial or “soft delete”. We think the chat is gone, but it’s actually still stored somewhere on Google’s servers.
- I’m not especially surprised that Google keeps the data… What bothers me is the way it’s hidden from the user while still being accessible/functional if you know the URL.
- This creates a false sense of deletion. From a user perspective, the chat looks gone. In reality, it’s not… And worse, it’s still active. That’s a serious problem from both a UX and privacy standpoint.

How to reproduce the bug:

1. Create a new chat in Google AI Studio
2. Copy or bookmark the chat’s unique URL
3. Delete the chat from the AI Studio interface (the file is also removed from Drive)
4. Return to the saved URL: the entire chat is still accessible and functional

Users deserve a clear, verifiable way to ensure that deleted chats are truly erased from Google’s infrastructure, not just made invisible through the UI. Anything else feels misleading and raises real concerns about privacy.

Thank you in advance for any clarification or official update from the Google team.

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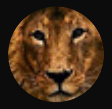

Deleted chats in Google AI Studio remain fully accessible and functional for 32 days (video p...

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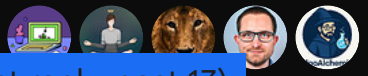

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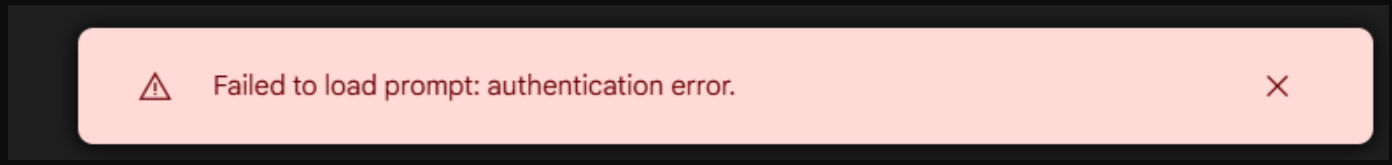
SergoWai Apr 2025

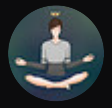
I just tested this on my own profile, and indeed, after deleting a chat, it remains accessible via its direct URL.

I decided to run a couple more tests based on your findings:

1. **Access from a different account on the same PC:** I asked my brother to log into his Google account and access Google AI Studio on my PC (where my account is also typically logged in). When he tried to open the direct URL for my deleted chat using his account, it redirected back to my primary account session, and the chat opened successfully.
2. **Access from a different account in Incognito:** I then tested using an incognito browser window, logged in only with my brother's account (ensuring no other accounts were authorized in that session). In this case, it seemed to work as expected. I received a message indicating that the prompt was unavailable due to unauthorized access.



Written with the help of Gemini <3.



Siva_Sravana_Kumar_N Google Apr 2025

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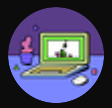
Hi @Pym,

Welcome to forum, thanks for flagging the issue. I was able to replicate the same, I will report back to team regarding the issue.

Thank you!



1 Reply

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3 months later

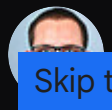
Henk_Poley Jul 2025

Looks like these ‘deleted prompts’ now redirect to: https://aistudio.google.com/prompt-access-restricted 80 - Title: “Not found | Google AI Studio”

With the text:

> Prompt cannot be accessed.
>
> The requested prompt does not exist or you do not have access. If you believe the request is correct, make sure you have first allowed AI Studio access to your Google Drive, and then ask the owner to share the prompt with you.

Sounds a bit like they are now ‘hidden’ even more, access restricted, but not necessarily truly deleted. At least they are now invisible to the original creator as well.



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1 month later

algoalchemist Sep 2025

Same thing happening with me, chats are accessible through urls

16 days later

Sebastian_H Sep 2025

This issue still persists. If a chat contains images, those also remain accessible through the original URL, even after deleting them from Google Drive. That raises the question: why does AI Studio save everything to Drive at all, if the data is also stored separately on Google's servers? This design gives users the impression that their data is tied only to their Drive account, which is misleading.

I get that Google may want to use chats for training, and that's usually acceptable under the ToS for a free service. But when a user deletes a chat, it should be actually deleted, not just hidden. Anything else is a serious GDPR concern. Hopefully this gets addressed with proper deletion from the server, not just another "soft delete."

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1 month later

Terry_Mechan Nov 2025

this thread started in April and is now November and still hasn't been fixed. is there actually anybody on the other end of the line or are they just counting the money they're making. my concern is are they actually getting code out of people so they can use it themselves

2 months later

Dipo Jan 5

This is probably a feature and not a bug.

You can see the deleted conversation in the trash of your Google Drive.
Restoring it restores the chat in AI studio as well. This was helpful to me when I mistakenly deleted my chat.

Although I haven't tried it but I suspect deleting the conversation from the Google Drive trash will permanently delete the conversation and render the link inaccessible.

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4 months later

Bitu79 2 Siva_Sravana_Kumar_N 2h

Siva, the issue is not that you ‘reproduced’ the behavior.
The issue is that you present it as if you just discovered it, when as a developer you obviously know exactly how this system works.

The ‘Delete’ button does not delete anything.
The chat still loads through the direct link, the Drive file is only metadata, and the actual removal only happens when Drive’s 30-day trash timer deletes that metadata entry.

This is not a quirk and not a surprise.
It’s intentional design — and the TOS conveniently avoids defining what ‘deletion’ means, which is why this comes across as misleading from a user’s perspective.

Siva, the problem is that you describe this behavior as if it were unexpected or something you just reproduced.

But as a developer, you know exactly why the system behaves this way.

The ‘Delete’ button does not delete anything — it only hides the chat while the actual data remains accessible until Drive’s 30-day trash cycle removes the metadata.
Presenting this as a minor quirk gives users the wrong impression about what is really happening behind the scenes.

Look, here’s your colleague’s official explanation.

H Saved prompt history extension? Google AI Studio

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rom the Google Ai Studio folder at google drive, they save without an extension. When I edit them as needed and reupload them back into the

Apr 2025

1 / 9
Apr 2025

2h

3.0k views 8 likes 1 link 9 users

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Skip to main content off (last reply, post 17) ts? When you create an account you'll always come back to where you left off. With an account you can also be notified of new

replies, save bookmarks, and use likes to thank others. We can all work together to make this community great. ❤️

Sign Up Maybe later no thanks

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